



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## Indiana E-Cycle: Recyclers

### Office of Pollution Prevention & Technical Assistance

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#### **Background**

- Effective July 1, 2009, the Indiana General Assembly enacted the Indiana Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Law (IC 13-20.5). The law created an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program (known as Indiana E-Cycle) that holds manufacturers of video display devices (VDDs) (televisions, computer monitors, laptops, netbooks, notebooks, tablet computers, and e-readers) responsible for collecting and recycling covered electronic devices from households, small businesses, and public schools in Indiana equal to at least sixty percent by weight of the VDDs they manufacture and sell to Indiana households.
  - Manufacturers can coordinate directly with collectors and recyclers to meet their annual recycling obligation; all collectors and recyclers that work with a manufacturer must be registered with Indiana E-Cycle.
  - Manufacturers are able to count the collection and recycling of a variety of electronics (referred to as covered electronic devices (CEDs)) from Indiana households, small businesses, and public schools, known as covered entities, toward their individual recycling obligations.
- The program aims to reduce the amount of e-waste being sent to Indiana landfills and to ensure that hazardous substances found in e-waste are being managed in an appropriate and environmentally responsible manner.
- For Indiana E-Cycle, a recycler is any entity that accepts CEDs from Indiana households, small businesses, public schools, and/or collectors for the purpose of recycling.
- Recyclers must be registered with IDEM in order to recycle CEDs on behalf of a manufacturer as part of their collection and recycling network.
- Collectors operate on a calendar year (January 1 – December 31) program year.



#### **Registration**

- E-waste recyclers that wish to participate in Indiana E-Cycle must submit a registration form to IDEM by November 1 of each year.
  - There is no registration fee for recyclers.
- As part of the annual registration, recyclers must provide the following information:
  - Contact information for the person responsible for ensuring compliance with the Indiana E-Waste Law (IC 13-20.5).
  - A list of all recycling facilities operated by the recycler that will be participating in the program.
  - A certification that the recycler is compliant with Indiana's E-Waste Management Rules (329 IAC 16). These rules are applicable to e-waste recyclers, but most recycling facilities are exempt from registration as an e-waste storage and processing facility under 329 IAC 16 for one or more of the following reasons:
    - The facility stores less than 23 tons of e-waste on-site at any given time.
    - The facility stores e-waste for less than five days at a time.
    - The facility is not located in Indiana.
    - The facility holds a valid permit under Indiana's Hazardous Waste



Management Facility Rules (329 IAC 3.1), Solid Waste Land Disposal Facility Rules (329 IAC 10), or Solid Waste Processing Facility Rules (329 IAC 11).

- Recyclers must register with Indiana E-Cycle in order to assist a manufacturer in meeting their recycling obligation. Only CEDs collected by registered collectors from Indiana households, small businesses, and public schools can be counted toward a manufacturer's recycling obligation.
  - Manufacturers are responsible for confirming that those recycling CEDs on their behalf are registered with the program.
  - Recyclers are responsible for ensuring that their registration is renewed annually if they wish to continue participation in the program.
- Completed registration forms can be submitted by mailing a hard copy to the address listed on the form or by emailing an electronic copy of the signed form to [E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov](mailto:E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov).

### **Extended Producer Responsibility**

- Because Indiana E-Cycle is an EPR program, manufacturers assume the financial responsibility for implementing their recycling plans and meeting their recycling obligations.
  - Many manufacturers will contract with one or more recyclers to assist them in meeting their recycling obligation. A registered manufacturer may pay for all or part of the recycling of a certain weight of CEDs to be counted toward their recycling obligation.
  - Manufacturers often place the responsibility of finding local collection programs on recyclers. A recycler needs to verify that all collectors utilized in conjunction with a manufacturer's recycling program are registered with Indiana E-Cycle.

### **Collection and Recycling Efforts**

- Registered recyclers must maintain records of all CEDs recycled that were collected from covered entities during each program year.
  - Recyclers should work out the details with collectors ahead of time regarding the separation of CEDs from non-CEDs and metropolitan CEDs from non-metropolitan CEDs.
  - Recyclers should weigh the CEDs after any CEDs designated for refurbishment, or reuse or for other reasons are not being recycled, have been removed, but before the recycling process begins.
  - CEDs collected from non-covered entities, including private schools, not-for-profits, government agencies, and large businesses, as well as non-CED items, cannot be counted toward a manufacturer's recycling obligation even if they are recycled by a registered recycler.
- Manufacturers are encouraged through incentives to utilize recycling facilities located in Indiana (10 percent incentive- each pound can be counted as 1.1 pounds), as well as to expand their collection efforts into non-metropolitan Indiana counties (50 percent incentive- each pound can be counted as 1.5 pounds).
  - These incentives are not mutually exclusive; a 60 percent incentive (each pound can be counted as 1.6 pounds) is provided for pounds of CEDs that are both collected in a non-metropolitan county and recycled in-state.
  - List of Indiana counties: [www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2380.htm](http://www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2380.htm).
- Recyclers can accept CEDs for refurbishment and/or repair. However, CEDs that are reused, repaired, resold and/or donated cannot be counted toward a manufacturer's recycling obligation.

### **Reporting**

- Recyclers must submit an annual report by each April 1 on forms provided by IDEM. The following information about the immediately preceding program year must be reported:
  - The total weight, in pounds, of CEDs collected from covered entities recycled.
  - The collector(s) from which the recycler received CEDs.
  - The name, if any, of the manufacturer(s) that contracted with the recycler as part of their annual recycling plan.



- Reporting forms can be submitted by mailing a hard copy to the address listed on the form or by emailing an electronic copy of the signed form to [E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov](mailto:E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov).

### **IDEM's Role**

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations that are vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM's Office of Compliance Support (OCS) is responsible for administering Indiana E-Cycle. OCS manages all aspects of the program, including registration, reporting, and compliance.

### **Definitions**

- **Collector**: a public or private entity that:
  - receives CEDs from covered entities and arranges for the delivery of the CEDs to a recycler; or,
  - collects CEDs directly from covered entities, including curbside collection.
- **Covered electronic device (CED)**: a computer, fax machine, DVD player (including gaming systems that can play DVDs), video cassette recorder, digital photo frame, digital media player, MP3 player, camcorder, camera, DVR, portable GPS navigation system, video display device, or peripheral (including keyboards, mice, external hard drives, and printers) that is sold to a covered entity by means of retailer, wholesale or electronic commerce. An all-in-one printer/scanner/copier or a projector can be considered a peripheral if the item is designed exclusively for external use with a computer.
- **Covered entity**: an Indiana household, public school, or small business.
  - **Household**: occupants of a dwelling located in Indiana who use a VDD at the dwelling primarily for personal use or home office use.
  - **Small business**: a business that satisfies all of the following:
    - The business is independently owned and operated.
    - The principal office of the business is located in Indiana.
    - The business satisfies either of the following:
      - The business has not more than 100 employees and not more than average annual gross receipts of \$10,000,000.
      - If the business is a manufacturing business, the business does not have more than 100 employees.
  - **Public school**: a K-12 public school or charter school.
    - A public school is a school maintained by a public school corporation established by Indiana law.
    - A charter school is a public elementary school or secondary school that is nonsectarian and nonreligious and operates under a charter.
- **Manufacturer**: a person that:
  - Manufactures VDDs to be sold under the person's own brand or a brand the person licenses as identified by the person's own brand label or the brand label the person licenses;
  - Sells VDDs manufactured by others under the person's own brand or a brand the person licenses as identified by the person's own brand label or the brand label the person licenses; or,
  - Assumes the responsibilities and obligations of a manufacturer.
- **Recycler**: an individual or public entity that accepts CEDs from covered entities and collectors for the purpose of recycling.
- **Recycling**: the process of collecting and preparing CEDs for use in manufacturing processes or for recovery of usable materials followed by delivery of the materials for use.
  - The term does not include the following:
    - Destruction of recyclable materials by incineration or another process.
    - Land disposal of recyclable materials.
    - Reuse, repair, or any other process through which VDDs or CEDs are returned to use for covered entities in their original form.

- Video display device (VDD): a television or computer monitor, including a laptop computer, netbook, notebook, tablet computer, or e-reader, that contains a cathode ray tube or flat panel screen with a screen size that is greater than four inches measured diagonally and is marketed by a manufacturer for use by covered entities.

#### **Additional Information**

- For registration and reporting forms and a list of currently registered recyclers, please visit the Indiana E-Cycle recyclers page: [www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2382.htm](http://www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2382.htm).
- General information about Indiana E-Cycle can be found at: [www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2373.htm](http://www.IN.gov/idem/recycle/2373.htm).
- For more information on the Indiana E-Waste Law, please visit [www.IN.gov/legislative/ic/code/title13/ar20.5/](http://www.IN.gov/legislative/ic/code/title13/ar20.5/).
- For more information on Indiana's E-Waste Management Rules, please visit [www.IN.gov/idem/5897.htm](http://www.IN.gov/idem/5897.htm) and [www.IN.gov/legislative/iac/T03290/A00160.PDF](http://www.IN.gov/legislative/iac/T03290/A00160.PDF).
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance at (800) 988-7901 or [E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov](mailto:E-Cycle@idem.IN.gov).